



State University System Board of Governors Office
Civic Literacy Implementation
October 5, 2018 revision

SUS Students Subject to the Requirement

(revised based on guidance from legislative staff on 10/5/18; see Appendix A for examples)

1. To whom does the Civic Literacy requirement apply?

The Civic Literacy requirement applies to undergraduate degree-seeking students who enroll in a public Florida institution (State University System (SUS) or Florida College System (FCS) institution) for the first time in Fall 2018 or later. SUS students must complete this requirement prior to graduating with a baccalaureate degree.

2. How does this requirement apply to students who transfer to an SUS institution?

Students transferring to a SUS institution in Fall 2018 or later who have never previously enrolled in a public Florida institution (SUS or FCS) must meet the requirement.

Students transferring to a SUS institution after Fall 2018 must meet the requirement if their initial enrollment in any Florida public institution (SUS or FCS) was in Fall 2018 or later and they did not complete the Civic Literacy requirement at the prior SUS or FCS institution(s).

3. If a student received an associate degree from a FCS institution prior to Fall 2018 academic year and is enrolled in a baccalaureate program beginning Fall 2018 or after, does this requirement apply?

No, because the initial enrollment in a Florida public institution (SUS or FCS) was prior to Fall 2018.

4. How does this requirement apply to dual enrollment students?

Enrollment in a Florida public institution (SUS or FCS) prior to graduating from high school does not exempt a student from having to meet the Civic Literacy requirement.

5. How will universities know if a student transferring between public institutions within the State of Florida has met the Civic Literacy requirement?

Board of Governors Office staff worked with the Department of Education Office of Articulation, and the Florida College System to ensure that the FASTER system has a common notation. Transcripts will have Yes/No/Exempt indicators to show whether the Civic Literacy requirement has been satisfied.

6. Is Civic Literacy required for students seeking a second baccalaureate?

If a student has never enrolled in an SUS or FCS institution prior to Fall 2018, yes.

Options for Meeting the Civic Literacy Requirement

Courses: POSX041 American Government or AMHX Introductory Survey Since 1877 completed in Fall 2018 or later. These courses taken as dual enrollment courses beginning in Fall 2018 also meet the requirement. NOTE: AMH X020 or POS X041 did not contain all of the competencies required by section 1007.25 (4)(b), Florida Statutes, prior to Fall 2018.

6. If a student successfully completed AMH X020 or POS X041 prior to Fall 2018, has the student satisfied the Civic Literacy requirement?

No. Prior to fall 2018 AMH X020 or POS X041 did not contain all of the competencies required by section 1007.25 (4)(b), Florida Statutes.

7. What if my institution's course-level outcomes for POSX041 or AMHX020 do not align with the competencies in statute?

According to section 1007.25 (4)(b), Florida Statutes, courses identified as satisfying the Civic Literacy requirement, in this case POS X041 and AMH X020, must align with the competencies listed in the subsection beginning in Fall 2018. Institutions should follow internal procedures to modify course outcomes to align with the competencies and work with the Office of Articulation to update the course profile(s) in the Statewide Course Numbering System (SCNS) database.

8. What if POSX041 or AMHX020 do not align with a student's approved program of study?

If POSX041 or AMHX020 do not align with a student's program of study, the institution should encourage the student to consider demonstrating competency through one of the approved assessments to avoid possible excess credit hours.

9. What if an institution does not offer POSX041 or AMHX020?

Students may meet the Civic Literacy requirement by achieving a minimum standard score indicated on any of the assessment described in the next section.

Students in Florida also have the option to take POS X041 and AMH X020 at a Florida college or university outside their home institution through the Transient Student Admission Application on Florida Shines (located at: <https://www.floridashines.org/succeed-in-college/take-a-course-at-another-school>). Students should contact their institutions for more information.

Assessments: Students may take one the following assessments and achieve the minimum standard score indicated to meet the Civic Literacy requirement.

Assessment	Standard Score
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Naturalization Test-Civics (U.S. History and government) with supplemental questions (available beginning fall 2018)	60
Advanced Placement Government and Politics: United States	3
Advanced Placement United States History	4
CLEP American Government	50

10. What are the costs associated with the CLEP and AP exams?

According to the [2017-2018 AP Exam bulletin](#), AP exams cost \$94 per examination. Some school districts may offset the cost of AP exams to students, so individual prices may vary. AP exams are only offered to high school students. Students should contact their high school for more information.

According to the College Board, beginning July 1, 2018, the cost for CLEP exams will be \$87 per examination. Individual costs may vary by testing center. Students should contact their institution's testing center for more information.

11. If a student took an exam other than AP or CLEP, such as AICE or IB, and received credit from the exam for AMH X020 or POS X041, have they satisfied the Civic Literacy requirement?

No. Although AICE and IB examinations may provide students with course credit aligning with course numbers identified as satisfying the Civic Literacy requirement, the content covered in the examinations currently does not align with the competencies identified in section 1007.25 (4)(b), Florida Statutes.

Implementation of the Naturalization Test – Civics (U.S. History and Government)

12. How can the institution access the test?

An authorized SUS institution representative may obtain an approved version of the Florida Virtual Campus, at no cost to the institution. Florida Virtual Campus will review the test annually to ensure it is providing the most current, approved version of the exam.

13. How many questions from the test bank of the Naturalization Test – Civics (U.S. History and Government) should be given to students?

Institutions must administer all 100 questions of the Naturalization Test – Civics (U.S. History and Government), which includes supplemental questions developed collaboratively by the SUS Board of Governor's Office staff, the FCS Office staff and the Lou Frey Institute, and incorporated into the test. An authorized SUS institution representative may obtain an approved version of the Florida Virtual Campus. Florida Virtual Campus will review the test annually to ensure it is providing the most current, approved version of the exam.

14. Are the questions in the Naturalization/Citizenship Test repeated?

No. There are 100 unique questions in the U.S. Naturalization/Citizenship Test, which includes unique supplemental questions.

15. What format will universities and colleges use to administer the Naturalization/Citizenship Test – Civics (U.S. History and Government)?

Institutions may choose to administer the approved version of the Naturalization/Citizenship Test – Civics (U.S. History and Government) in any format. Test administration can be given in, but not limited to, a learning management system (LMS), a paper-based examination, or another format that is designed to meet the needs of students with special needs. Institutions should ensure that the test is administered in a manner that maintains the integrity of the test and its content.

16. What is the cost of the U.S. Naturalization/Citizenship Test – Civics?

There should be no cost to students for the test itself. The approved version of the U.S. Naturalization/Citizenship Test – Civics (U.S. History and Government) will be available from the Florida Virtual Campus without cost to institutions. There is therefore no cost to the institution for the exam itself, beyond any institution-specific fees associated with administration of the exam.

17. Will institutions be required to keep a record of each student's score on the U.S. Naturalization/Citizenship Test – Civics (U.S. History and Government)?

Yes. Institutions are required to maintain records of each student's final passing score on the test. The scores, however, will not be noted on the transcript.

18. What happens if a student fails the Naturalization Test – Civics (U.S. History and Government)?

Institutions will develop and implement their own internal policies regarding test administration. Students should contact their institutions directly for more information.

19. How many attempts does a student have to successfully pass the Naturalization Test – Civics (U.S. History and Government)?

Institutions will develop and implement their own policies related to test administration, including the number of attempts available to students. Students should contact their institutions directly for more information.

20. Will students who previously took the U.S. Naturalization/Citizenship Test to become a U.S. citizen be considered to have satisfied the Civic Literacy requirement?

No. Students who took the U.S. Naturalization/Citizenship Test to become a U.S. citizen will not have met the Civic Literacy requirement, as that process only requires prospective citizens to correctly answer ten (10) questions.

APPENDIX A: Examples

Key question: When did the student **first** enroll in a public (SUS/FCS) institution? If fall 2018 or later, they are subject to the Civic Literacy requirement regardless of residency or past postsecondary enrollment.

SUBJECT TO THE CIVIC LITERACY REQUIREMENT

- Student's (resident or non-resident) first enrollment in a public Florida (SUS/FCS) institution is TCC in fall 2018 but doesn't meet the requirement at TCC, then transfers to FSU in spring 2019
- Student's (resident or non-resident) first enrollment in a public Florida (SUS/FCS) institution is FGCU in fall 2018 but doesn't meet the requirement at FGCU, then transfers to UF in spring 2019
- Student's (resident or non-resident) first enrollment in a public Florida (SUS/FCS) institution is FAU fall 2018 after completing 30 credits at Georgia public institution in AY2017-18
- Student's (resident or non-resident) first enrollment in a public Florida (SUS/FCS) institution is UNF in fall 2019 after completing 30 credits at Alabama institution in AY2018-19
- Student's (resident or non-resident) first enrollment in a public Florida (SUS/FCS) institution is FIU in fall 2020 after completing 30 credits at Miami University
- Student's (resident or non-resident) first enrollment in a public Florida (SUS/FCS) institution is Poly in fall 2020 after completing an associate's degree at a non-FCS institution in May 2020

EXEMPT FROM THE CIVIC LITERACY REQUIREMENT

- Student's (resident or non-resident) first enrollment in a public Florida (SUS/FCS) institution is Santa Fe in fall 2018 and meets the requirement at Santa Fe, then transfers to UF in spring 2019
- Student's (resident or non-resident) first enrollment in a public Florida (SUS/FCS) institution Hillsborough in fall 2017, then transfers to USF in fall 2018
- Student's (resident or non-resident) first enrollment in a public Florida (SUS/FCS) institution FGCU in fall 2016, then transfers to UF in fall 2019
- Student's (resident or non-resident) who completed an associate degree at an FCS institution in May 2017 and transfers to an SUS institution in Fall 2018